

nation of savers, not the government, will control their retirement security. Should an individual die before becoming eligible, the balance of their money will be passed along to their heirs.

Fourth, under my plan, Social Security can be counted on for the next 75 years, and beyond. Real assets guarantee current and new expanded benefits, not Government IOUs, establishing a sound and sustainable financial footing. There will be no more need to increase taxes or lower benefits every few years to keep the program working.

Beyond keeping these promises, we must do more to further improve Social Security for the women of our nation. Because of their longer life expectancies and lower earnings, women are more likely to suffer poverty in old age and therefore heavily depend on Social Security's vital safety net. In addition, because benefits are based on earnings, women are penalized when they choose to stay home to raise their children. The Guarantee Plus Plan increases protection for women, not only by securing the future of the current Social Security and guaranteeing full benefits, including cost-of-living adjustments, but also by enhancing benefits for widows, divorced spouses, and working mothers. These benefits become available immediately in my bill.

Congressman WALTER JONES (NC-03) said "we, as members of Congress, have a duty to our seniors to ensure their retirement security will not be jeopardized." I couldn't agree more. Therefore, the bill includes a provision, similar to that introduced by my friend WALTER JONES, where each beneficiary will receive a legally enforceable certificate guaranteeing his or her benefits.

Here's how the Social Security Guarantee Plus Plan works. The plan guarantees full, promised, current law benefits for all workers, whether you are 6 or 65. Just as companies must back your pension plan with real assets, the Guarantee Plus Plan saves Social Security by setting aside real assets, not IOUs, to pre-fund benefits. These assets are saved in each worker's own account, thereby providing workers the opportunity to create real wealth for themselves and their families.

Workers who choose to participate will receive a refundable credit of 2–3% of their earnings to establish their own Social Security Guarantee Account. Workers, not the government, would select where to invest their Guarantee Account funds. The assets in these accounts would grow tax-free. No withdrawals would be permitted until a worker starts receiving benefits to ensure that the money is preserved for retirement.

At retirement or when the worker becomes disabled, a portion of the Guarantee Account is paid directly to the worker and the rest is used to help pay full, guaranteed Social Security benefits. But that's not all.

My plan also includes much needed improvements in benefits for widows, divorced women, working women caring for young children, and women with work not covered under Social Security. My plan also eliminates the retirement earnings penalty for all workers age 62 and older.

The Guarantee Plus Plan does all this and pays for itself over the seventy five-year actuarial period, and that's confirmed by the Social Security Administration's Office of the Actuary. Even under the most conservative estimates, the Guarantee Plus Plan allows the new So-

cial Security system to generate surplus cash in the later part of the century, actually adding black ink to the government's bottom line.

Other plans may cost less because they cut benefits or raise taxes. If your goal is to keep current benefits, boost women's benefits, and return Social Security to financial independence, The Guarantee Plus Plan is the lowest-cost proposal to date. My plan uses general revenues to fund the accounts. Even assuming borrowing for a transitional period, my plan pays back every borrowed dollar plus interest within the 75-year evaluation period. Not only do we pay off the mortgage on Social Security, we leave workers with substantial account balances and the federal government with excess cash.

President Bush has shown true leadership by setting out principles for reform. The Guarantee Plus Plan meets or exceeds all of these principles.

Principle #1: Modernization must not change Social Security benefits for retirees or near retirees. My plan exceeds this principle, because it preserves and guarantees benefits for all workers and retirees. In fact, my plan improves benefits for everybody.

Principle #2: The entire Social Security surplus must be dedicated to Social Security only. For the first time available Social Security surpluses will be used to benefit Social Security directly.

Principle #3: Social Security payroll taxes must not be increased. My plan does not ever raise payroll taxes. In fact, my plan creates long-term savings that could potentially allow a payroll tax decrease.

Principle #4: The government must not invest Social Security funds in the stock market. My plan allows workers, not the government, to invest account contributions in safe, sound investment choices.

Principle #5: Modernization must preserve Social Security's disability and survivors components. My plan does not alter Social Security disability and survivor benefits in any way, except to increase guaranteed benefits for survivors and to increase income security for individuals with disabilities, who keep 5% of their account in addition to full, guaranteed benefits.

Principle #6: Modernization must include individually controlled, voluntary personal retirement accounts, which will augment the Social Security safety net. My plan provides workers all opportunity to voluntarily participate in personal accounts that they own and control without individual investment risk. These accounts ensure Social Security will be able to pay current law benefits for all workers for 75 years and beyond.

The President also convened a bipartisan Commission to issue recommendations for strengthening and modernizing Social Security. Later this month, we will see the Commission's final report, and our nation will embark on further debate regarding the future of this great program.

Just yesterday, the House overwhelmingly passed a resolution that summarized what actions we, as Members of Congress, should take in saving Social Security. This resolution clearly states that we should join with the President in saving Social Security as soon as possible. It also states that any plan to save Social Security should recognize the obstacles women face in securing financial stability at retirement, the critical role Social Security plays in preventing poverty and providing fi-

nancial security for minorities. Finally, it states that any plan to save Social Security should guarantee current law promised benefits, including cost-of-living adjustments, for current and future retirees, and should not increase taxes. My plan accomplishes all these objectives.

As the choices necessary to secure the future of Social Security become more clear in the coming weeks and months, I want America to know my choices for how to strengthen and improve Social Security for the next 75 years and beyond. I choose:

No to privatizing; yes to securing Social Security as we know it.

No to lowering benefits or increasing taxes; yes to benefit guarantees.

No to more government IOUs; yes to real savings through voluntary personal savings accounts.

No to government investment; yes to worker choice and worker-controlled investing in safe, market investments.

No to program bankruptcy and burdening our children with debt into years unknown; yes to a solvent, debt-free Social Security program.

Stepping up to the challenge and finding a solution is the "American" way; ignoring it is not. Those who truly want to keep Social Security's promises must do more than just stand on the sidelines—they must offer their own workable proposal to fix Social Security's finances. Those who only criticize the difficult and candid choices of people giving purposeful thought towards saving Social Security have no place in this serious debate.

We must work together to build on the Success of the past to make a strengthened Social Security system an asset to all and not a liability to our children and grandchildren.

IN TRIBUTE TO LORENZO BOOKER

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2001

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to a young man whose name I predict we will hear for many years to come: Lorenzo Booker, a high school running back from my district who has been named the 2001 Gatorade National High School Football Player of the Year.

Mr. Booker was chosen for this national honor from more than 1 million male high school football players by the Gatorade Company and Coach and Athletic Director magazine. He joins a prestigious list of previous winners, including Emmitt Smith of the Dallas Cowboys and Peyton Manning of the Indianapolis Colts.

During Mr. Booker's three seasons at St. Bonaventure High School in Ventura, California, he broke four California state records and helped his team achieve an impressive 42–0 record and three CIF–Southern Section Division XI championships. His records are: 8,501 rushing yards, 882 points, 137 touchdowns, and 131 touchdown runs. He averaged 11.23 yards per carry.

In his final high school game, he ran for 232 yards and scored five touchdowns. His speed, strength and elusiveness have led to comparisons with the likes of Barry Sanders, O.J. Simpson, Marshall Faulk and Gale Sayers.

Mr. Booker and fellow teammate James Bonelli have been named to the U.S. Army All-American Bowl on January 5, 2002, at Alamo Stadium in San Antonio, Texas. On the day before the game, the Ken Hall Player of the Year trophy will be awarded. Mr. Booker is a finalist. He also is a finalist for the USA Today Offensive Player of the Year and the High School Heisman.

Obviously a leader on the field, Mr. Booker also has been described as a leader off the field, and as a gentleman who is proud and confident but who treats everyone as his equal.

Not surprisingly, Mr. Booker is considered by many to be the top college recruit in the country. Ironically, Mr. Booker is in no rush: He says he'll make a decision when he wakes up on National Signing Day, February 5.

Wherever he goes, college football fans will quickly learn what California high school fans already know: Lorenzo Booker is a winner.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in congratulating Lorenzo Booker for a very successful and impressive high school football career and in wishing him the best as he dodges and weaves into the next chapter.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL CLIFFT

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2001

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to pay tribute to an outstanding citizen of Indiana's First Congressional District, Michael Clifft. On November 30, 2001, Michael, along with his family and friends, celebrated his retirement from the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers Local Union 374 after more than 35 years of dedicated service.

We in Northwest Indiana applaud Mr. Clifft's achievements thus far. At the young age of 23, he was initiated into the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, an event that marked his entry into a productive career in this field. A native Oklahoman, he joined our community in 1968 when he was transferred to Local 374 in Hammond, Indiana. His sense of dedication and professionalism that was formed in the Heartland came to fruition in Northwest Indiana with his many positive contributions in our community. We often seek in traditions a reflection of American ideals: reliability, loyalty, and an unwavering commitment to a strong work ethic. The Clifft family yields to us all an example of uncompromising dedication to this ethic—his father before him and his daughter after him are both distinguished Boilermakers. Mr. Clifft has provided the constituents of the First Congressional District with a positive standard after which they can model themselves.

As a testament to his dedication to the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Mr. Clifft was appointed to the position of Assistant Business Manager of Local 374 in 1995. For the six years he served in this position, he represented Local 374 with the same integrity that he has devoted to his career, his family, and his friends.

With his induction into the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Mr. Clifft became a member of a family of professionals that spans the globe. His efforts to serve his

international brothers and sisters to the best of his abilities are the reasons we honor him today. Yet these obligations do not curtail his involvement with those who have supported him in these endeavors. The Clifft family should also receive some of the praise offered today. His wife, his five children, and his ten grandchildren have selflessly shared this man with our community and they are also deserving of our gratitude.

On this special day, I offer my heartfelt congratulations to Michael Clifft. His large circle of family and friends can be proud of the contributions this prominent individual has made. His work in the labor movement provided union workers in Northwest Indiana opportunities that might have remained undiscovered. Mr. Clifft's contributions kept the labor force strong and his loyalty and sincerity embody all that is admirable in America's workforce. I sincerely wish Michael Clifft a long, happy, and productive retirement.

TRIBUTE TO MR. MARTIN MURPHY

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2001

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Mr. Martin Murphy. Mr. Murphy resides in Youngstown, Ohio and is a long-time U.S. History and Civics teacher at Chaney High School.

For years, Mr. Murphy has worked to promote the traditions and institutions of the United States to the children of Youngstown. He has provided students with the opportunity to meet veterans and hear their stories. He has taught the students the importance of celebrating our liberties by holding ceremonies around the flagpole and at cemeteries for those that gave their lives to ensure our freedom. He has taken students to African American History and Voice of America competitions, which test their democratic values and beliefs.

Recently, Mr. Murphy was nominated as Teacher of the Year for the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

I would like to thank Mr. Martin Murphy for dedicating many invaluable years to our young people. It takes a special person to teach them the significance of the freedoms that Americans are so fortunate to have.

HONORING PROFESSOR GARY JOHNSON

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2001

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an old and dear friend of mine, Dr. Gary Johnson. Dr. Johnson was instrumental in helping me become who I am today. As my advisor in the San José State University Counselor Education program, he helped me develop the sense of mediation and personal interactions which are so important in the work I do as a Member of Congress. This Friday evening, December 14, 2001, Dr. Johnson will be honored at a celebration of his impending

retirement from the faculty of my alma mater. The College of Education and the Department of Counselor Education at San José State University will gather together to pay tribute to Dr. Johnson for his 32 years of dedicated service to the Counselor Education program and to the betterment of our community and public schools.

Dr. Gary Johnson has been a leader in the design and implementation of the graduate program in the Department of Counselor Education at the College of Education at San José State University since 1969. He has served as a faculty member, program director, and division chairperson. In these capacities, he has motivated and inspired students from diverse backgrounds to maximize their individual potential for the good of our collective communities.

Since 1957, the innovative Graduate Department of Counselor Education has trained and graduated over 2,000 diverse professionals. It has maintained a recruitment and training emphasis focusing on cross-cultural issues, community partnerships, career life-span development, non-traditional counseling services, and historically under-represented student populations since 1970. Starting in 1978, the department has supported a bilingual emphasis in its students, a bilingual capability in its faculty, and a cross-cultural emphasis in its curriculum delivery.

Many students have chosen Counselor Education as the field in which to re-enter their university studies, receiving their Masters Degrees and going on to pursue successful careers in private industry, education, and community organizations. Many Counselor Education graduates have pursued leadership roles as school administrators and educational reformers. The professional work of these individuals is a testimony to the invaluable work of Dr. Johnson's long and distinguished career. Along with so many others, I take this opportunity to commend Dr. Gary Johnson for his outstanding contributions to the Graduate Department of Counselor Education at San José State University, and his outstanding contributions to my life and my professional development and career.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 3484, THE PROMPT UTILIZATION OF WIRELESS SPECTRUM ACT OF 2001

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2001

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be an original cosponsor of H.R. 3484, the Prompt Utilization of Wireless Spectrum Act of 2001. The bill's title aptly describes the critical need for this legislation to turn wireless spectrum, which has been tied up in litigation for years, into a useful, performing asset for the American people.

For some five years, these personal communication services spectrum licenses have been the subject of a contentious dispute between the original licensee, an entity known as NextWave, and the Federal Communications Commission, regarding their rightful ownership.

In 1993, the Communications Act of 1934 was amended to permit the FCC to sell licenses and construction permits through a